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U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management Kremmling Field Office P.O. Box 68 Kremmling, CO 80459

# **ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CO-120-2010-0045-EA

**PROJECT NAME**: State Bridge Special Recreation Permit

<u>LEGAL DESCRIPTION</u>: T. 2 S., R. 83 W., Sections 24 & 25, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M.

KREMMLING FIELD OFFICE, KREMMLING, COLORADO

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER:

APPLICANT: Doog Properties SB LLC

# PURPOSE AND NEED FOR THE ACTION:

This Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared to disclose and analyze the environmental consequences of authorizing a Special Recreation Permit (SRP) on BLM-administered lands along the Trough Road in the Kremmling Field Office, in the Colorado NW District. The objective of this EA is to develop an analysis of potential impacts that could result from the implementation of the proposed action or alternatives described below.

In accordance with 43 CFR 2932.11, Special Recreation Permits are required for commercial use of public lands. The private property owned by Doog Properties SB LLC, State Bridge Lodge, has historically been used for large music events. Much of the topography on the private property is very steep, resulting in very little usable land for parking and overnight accommodations for event participants. As a result, most of the event participants have parked and/or camped on adjacent BLM-administered lands, increasing recreational use on BLM-administered lands during events. Doog Properties SB LLC has applied for a Special Recreation Permit (SRP) to use public land along the Trough Road for parking and camping. With the issuance of an SRP, the BLM can reduce the impacts to natural and cultural resources, mitigate public safety concerns, and reduce user conflicts created by the events with stipulations and bonding for reclamation.

This EA assists the BLM in ensuring compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and in making a determination as to whether any "significant" impacts could result from the analyzed actions. "Significance" is defined by NEPA and is found in regulation 40 CFR

1508.27. An EA provides evidence for determining whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a statement of "Finding of No Significant Impact" (FONSI). If the decision maker determines that this project has "significant" impacts following the analysis in the EA, then an EIS would be prepared for the project. If not, a Decision Record may be signed for the EA approving the selected alternative, whether the proposed action or another alternative. A Decision Record (DR), including a FONSI statement, documents the reasons why implementation of the selected alternative would not result in "significant" environmental impacts (effects) beyond those already addressed in this EA.

# Background/Introduction/Issues and Concerns:

The BLM Kremmling Field Office issued an SRP in 2003 for camping and temporary yurts for the 2003 season. The 2003 SRP was analyzed in an environmental assessment (EA), CO-KRFO-03-15 EA. The EA found no significant impacts associated with issuing the SRP. The SRP was renewed in 2004, 2005, and 2006. In the spring of 2007, the historic lodge on the property burned down. No music events were held on the property in 2007, 2008 or 2009. In the spring of 2010, under new ownership, the owners of the State Bridge property proposed continuation of music events on the property.

Douglas Moog, the owner of the property, has also applied for a Special Use Permit with Eagle County. The Special Use Permit that was approved has a maximum of 500 attendees per event day. Events over 500 attendees require an application for a Mass Gathering Permit from Eagle County. Events with over 250 attendees are limited to 15 events per year. Other stipulations with the Eagle County Special Use Permit are outlined in this document as well as the Eagle County Special Use Permit.

New information has become available to the BLM since the 2003 EA was completed. Since 2003, the BLM has conducted a Wild & Scenic River Eligibility Report for the Resource Management Plan Revision; an updated cultural survey of the BLM-administered lands adjacent to the private property has been completed; and, the proponent has commissioned a traffic impact study for the county's mass gathering permit. This new information was not fully analyzed in the 2003 EA.

# DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES:

## Proposed Action:

The proposed action is to issue a 1-year Special Recreation Permit (SRP) to authorize parking and camping by event participants on BLM-administered lands adjacent to the State Bridge private property. The SRP would be issued for a one year period, with the option to renew the permit, pending the results of monitoring studies. The SRP would authorize use on weekends (Friday evenings through Sunday afternoons, and on holiday weekends Friday evenings through Monday afternoons) from May, 2011 through October, 2011. Holiday weekends include Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Labor Day. The SRP would only authorize use on the BLM-administered lands shown on the attached map. The BLM had a meeting with State Bridge in 2010 to discuss the extension of the permit, the BLM told State Bridge that they need to find another solution (e.g., finding other property, etc.) for camping and parking for future events. If this does not happen before the 2012 season, the BLM will use the monitoring reports to decide

if another 1-year probationary permit would be authorized. Before issuing a multi-year SRP, two 1-year probationary permits would be issued. Monitoring after each event during the first 1-year permit would determine if additional stipulations would be added to the second 1-year or multi-year permit. If resource specialists determine thru monitoring, additional stipulations would not mitigate resource damage, additional permits would not be issued.

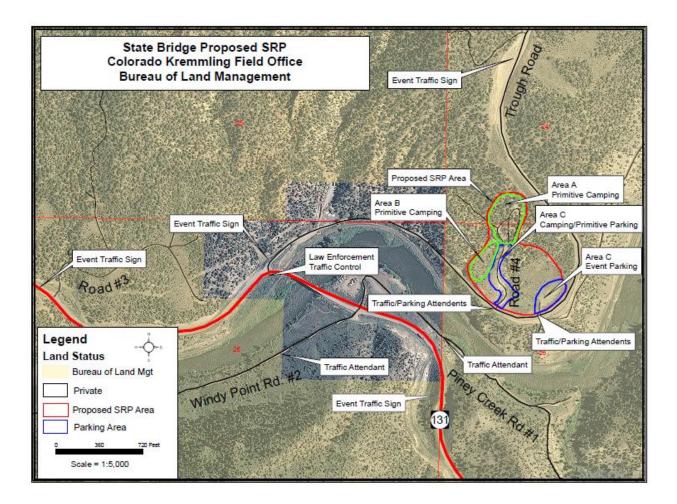
# Design Features of the Proposed Action:

The SRP would include the following stipulations:

- 1. BLM Stipulations- On event weekends, the permittee:
  - Would ensure traffic/parking attendants would be on duty directing traffic at the locations identified on the attached map three hours before the music begins and three hours after the music ends each event day.
  - Would place five portable toilets within the proposed SRP area (see attached map). Portable toilets would be on site, ready for use by noon on Friday and remain on site through Sunday night (on holiday weekends, through Monday night).
  - Would place one five yard dumpster or five one yard dumpsters within the proposed SRP area (see attached map). The dumpster would be on site, ready for use by noon on Friday and remain on site through Sunday night (on holiday weekends, through Monday night). Dumpsters must be removed between events.
  - Would be responsible for installing "Event in Progress" signs on both approaches to Trough Road on Hwy 131, approximately 1 mile from intersection.
  - Would be responsible for ensuring all event traffic parks and camps on either private property or within the proposed SRP area. Event parking and camping are not allowed on BLM-administered lands outside the proposed SRP area (see attached map).
  - Would be responsible for ensuring no camping occurs within the designated parking areas (see attached map).
  - Would be responsible for ensuring all campfires are in the proposed SRP area and outside the designated parking areas. The permittee is responsible for cleaning and maintenance of fire rings in the SRP area after each event.
- 2. Parking areas would be fenced off with temporary fencing to prevent vehicle traffic outside the designated parking areas. Area C- Camping/Primitive Parking would allow for around 70 vehicles and Area C- Event Parking would allow for around 100 vehicles.
- 3. The permittee would post a cash or surety bond in the amount of \$10,000 to cover any reclamation/restoration costs that result from the events.
- 4. Fees for the permit would be \$200 for the assigned site fee and 3% of gross receipts or \$5.00 per vehicle per day (whether camping or parking) whichever is greater.
- 5. The permittee would provide the BLM Kremmling Field Office proof of liability insurance covering all participants for the following minimum amounts:
  - Property damage \$30,000
  - Damage per occurrence (persons, bodily injury, death) \$300,000
  - Annual aggregate \$600,000
- 6. The BLM would monitor the project area for establishment of invasive, non-native species. BLM would be responsible for the treatment of invasive and non-native species.
- 7. The BLM would conduct an inter-disciplinary assessment of the area prior to renewing the SRP. Preventive or remedial modifications would be added to the permit to insure

- no accelerated runoff was leaving the SRP site and impacting water quality by requiring erosion control work or drainage improvements on trails and camping sites.
- 8. Eagle County Stipulations (per Special Use Permit)- On event weekend, the permittee:
  - Would be responsible for ensuring no event traffic parks on or along either the Trough Road or Colorado Hwy 131. Along both side of SH-131 and Trough Road in vicinity of the intersection and adjacent to State Bridge, 'No Parking' signs would be installed as requested by CDOT and Eagle County.
  - Uniformed traffic control shall be required for any event where more than 250 event tickets have been issued, a commissioned law enforcement officer would direct traffic at the intersection between the Trough Road and Colorado Hwy 131 for the duration of an event as defined by Colorado State Patrol and/or Eagle County Sheriff's Department. Colorado State Patrol and the Eagle County Sheriff's Department may determine that Uniformed Traffic Control is not necessary and documented in writing.





<u>No Action Alternative</u>: A Special Recreation Permit would not be issued if the No Action Alternative was chosen. This would increase the recreational activity on BLM-administered lands and roads during the events. This would result in unregulated camping and parking not only in the proposed SRP area but all public lands surrounding the event area. The promoter would have no jurisdiction to control the activities on public lands.

# Alternative Considered but Eliminated from Detailed Analysis:

The BLM would not issue a Special Recreation Permit and would implement a temporary road and area closure on BLM-administered lands adjacent to the State Bridge private property (see map below). The temporary closures would be in effect from noon on Friday through Monday morning during the event weekends and would close the BLM-administered lands to all public use (e.g. parking, camping, hiking, etc.). This action was considered but not further analyzed due to lack of budget to provide adequate staff to close this area and the roads.

# <u>CONFORMANCE WITH LAND USE PLAN AND OTHER LAWS, REGULATIONS, AND POLICIES:</u>

The Proposed Action is in conformance with the Record of Decision for the Kremmling Resource Management Plan approved in December 1984, amended in November 1991, and Updated in February1999, and with the land use plan terms and conditions as required by 43 CFR 1610.5-3(a).

This Environmental Analysis fulfills the 1969 National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirement for site-specific analysis. The Proposed Action is in accordance with the following laws and/or regulations, other plans, and is consistent with Federal, State, and local laws, regulations:

- Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.)
- Endangered Species Act of 1973 as amended
- Clean Water Act Section 303d
- Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended
- National Environmental Policy Act of 1969
- Executive Order 13186 Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds

# <u>AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT / ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES / MITIGATION</u> MEASURES:

### **CULTURAL RESOURCES**

Affected Environment: Several cultural resource inventories have been conducted within and adjacent to the area of the proposed action. Five prehistoric sites 5GA833, 5GA1565, 5GA2139, 5GA2140, and 5GA2144 are adjacent to or inside the area of the proposed action. Sites 5GA833, 5GA1565, 5GA2139 are not considered to be eligible to the National Register of

Historic Places, because they are not eligible, they do not have the potential to provide additional scientific data and are therefore no longer a part of management consideration. Three prehistoric lithic scatters, sites 5GA2141, 5GA2142, and 5GA2143, have been determined to be eligible to the National Register of Historic Places because they have the potential to provide additional scientific information about prehistoric adaptations. Site 5GA2141 also includes a wikiup constructed from juniper poles that is perishable material. All three eligible sites, though outside the area of the proposed action, have the potential to be affected from dispersed camping and associated activities at State Bridge.

Environmental Consequences, Proposed Action: Activities authorized by the proposed action have the potential to impact sites 5GA2141, 5GA2142, and 5GA2143 directly from dispersed camping to collection of artifacts, or destruction and removal of the wikiup for fire wood leading to the loss of scientific information and therefore affecting the eligibility of the sites. The loss of vegetation from activities associated with the permit could indirectly affect the cultural resources by allowing increased erosion from hikers, resulting in the displacement or loss of artifacts from individual collectors.

Environmental Consequences, No Action Alternative: Sites 5GA2141, 5GA2142, and 5GA2143 have the potential for impacts from dispersed camping due to visitor activities from concerts and recreational activities at all times at State Bridge. These would lead to the destruction of the wikiup and collection of artifacts from the sites. The result would be the loss of scientific information that has contributed to the sites eligibility. If impacts take place at the site the Archaeological Resource Protection Act (ARPA) would be in effect resulting in determination of damages and data recovery.

Mitigation Measures: If the proposed action or the no action alternative is selected, cultural sites 5GA2141, 5GA2142, and 5GA2143 would be avoided by the construction of a structural barrier such as a buck and pole fence and signs that would identify the area as closed. The Kremmling Archaeologist and Recreation staff would construct the barrier. Monitoring of the closed area would be conducted by State Bridge employees to ensure avoidance of the three eligible sites during all recreational activities, and periodic site monitoring by the Field Office Archaeologist of the eligible sites. Site protection and monitoring in the future could be established by the creation of a site stewardship partnership with State Bridge to ensure that no adverse effects would take place. The program would also be used to educate State Bridge personnel of the proper site etiquette and protection needs for the eligible sites

#### INVASIVE, NON-NATIVE SPECIES

Affected Environment: Currently, there is only a minor infestation of invasive, non-native species within the project area. Cheatgrass (*Bromis tectorum*) and field bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*) have become established in some of the disturbed area, especially along the roads, parking areas, and around the campsite areas. A few perennial pepperweed (*Lepidium latifolium*) plants and small areas of Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*) were observed along the Trough Road adjacent to the proposed SRP area. Currently, recreation in this area is sporadic campers, but if the proposed action is selected there would be a large increase in visitors all with vehicles from outside the area.

Environmental Consequences, Proposed Action: The Proposed Action would increase recreational use within the designated camping and parking areas during events. This action would create greater ground disturbance to the event areas and more vehicles would be coming into the area causing susceptibility to invasion by invasive, non-native species. From the proposed action location, it would be probable that the seeds of the invasive, non-native species could spread to other areas of private and public land not authorized by the SRP. These areas could require reseeding and frequent inspections until new desirable vegetation becomes established. Any invasive, non-native species that become established or spread because of the proposed disturbances would require treatment.

Environmental Consequences, No Action Alternative: The No Action Alternative would result in the continuation of unregulated camping and travel on BLM-administered lands adjoining the State Bridge private property in association with events promoted by the State Bridge property owner. Invasive, non native species would continue to be spread by these activities but probably not as extensive as the proposed action, and the BLM would continue to monitor the area for invasions.

Mitigation Measures: None

#### **MIGRATORY BIRDS**

Affected Environment: A variety of migratory bird species, primarily birds of prey and songbirds, have been observed in the proposed project area. Surveys conducted in 1994 by the Colorado Breeding Bird Atlas Partnership recorded many species including Cooper's hawks, Red-tailed hawks, Golden Eagles, Mountain Bluebirds, Common Nighthawks, American Robins, Barn and Cliff swallows, Killdeer, Mountain Chickadees, Mourning Doves, Violet-green swallows and Pinyon Jays.

Environmental Consequences, Proposed Action: The Proposed Action, including increased traffic on the road and noise, may temporarily displace birds that use the area. However, sufficient habitat exists adjacent to the proposed site to support birds displaced by the events. If birds are nesting adjacent to the project area when events occur, they may abandon their nests, particularly from May 15<sup>th</sup> to June 15<sup>th</sup>. Events planned to occur after June 15th should result in little to no impacts to nesting migratory birds. In addition, the Proposed Action would increase recreational use within the designated camping and parking areas during events. The vegetation would likely deteriorate, causing a decrease in forage and cover for migratory birds.

Environmental Consequences, No Action Alternative: The No Action Alternative would result in the continuation of unregulated camping and travel on BLM-administered lands adjoining the State Bridge private property in association with events promoted by the State Bridge property owner. The unregulated use of these BLM-administered lands would likely degrade a small amount of migratory bird habitat adjacent to the State Bridge private property. As a result of the expected degradation, overall bird nesting and foraging habitat could decrease in the proposed project area.

Mitigation Measures: None.

# WATER QUALITY, SURFACE AND GROUND (includes a finding on Standard 5)

Affected Environment: The Proposed Action is located on an upland area adjacent to the Colorado River's floodplain. There are no known surface or ground water occurrences within the SRP boundary. The Proposed Action would not affect ground water. The Colorado River is fairly confined by the steep topography in this area and the floodplain is narrow. The railroad track is located on the upland edge of the floodplain. The proposed SRP lies above the county road, which creates a break in the runoff pathway from the SRP to the river. Runoff from the SRP area would pond near the parking area or would travel in the county road's ditch downhill towards State Bridge Lodge. Runoff eventually crosses the road, entering the floodplain.

Outside of the SRP, there are segments of the Colorado and Piney River floodplain that support riparian vegetation and more gently sloped public lands. These areas could receive vehicle and camping use during the event weekends. The rest of the summer, these areas receive some camping use, primarily limited to one tent per site. Riparian vegetation along the river of willow over story is in fairly good condition, with some user-created trails to access the water.

This segment of the Colorado River is designated for Class 1 Coldwater Aquatic Life, Recreation, Water Supply, and Agricultural uses. Only primary contact recreational use has been assessed by the state (2010 305(b) Report) and the river's water quality is considered to be fully supporting this water use. Piney River has a similar designation, but does not include recreational uses.

Environmental Consequences, Proposed Action: The SRP's area can generate runoff with large sediment loads in response to intense summer thunderstorms, depending on the location and duration of the storm event. Bare areas due to repetitive use as a parking area or camp spot can concentrate water flow patterns, creating rills and eventually gullies down steep slopes.

Environmental Consequences, No Action Alternative: The No Action Alternative would have the greatest potential impact to water resources. Without the BLM taking additional actions, recreational use would occur within the proposed SRP boundary and the surrounding areas in response to the State Bridge Lodge events. Overflow camping could occur adjacent to or in the Colorado River floodplain and along the Piney River floodplain, where there is a greater potential to impact water quality due to the proximity to surface water. Riparian vegetation could be damaged or removed due to the creation of larger campsites and the more frequent use. Loss of vegetation can increase bank erosion, which degrades stream habitat for aquatic species. Riparian vegetation also helps filter upland runoff, reducing the amount of sediment reaching the river. Sediment loads can impact water quality and cement spawning gravels.

Mitigation Measures: None

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for water quality: This segment of the Colorado River is considered to be meeting the Standard for water quality. The No Action Alternative has

the greatest potential to impact water quality, depending on the actual number and locations of parked vehicles and campsites located near the Colorado and Piney Rivers in response to the State Bridge concerts. Actual impacts would be expected to be fairly localized, due to rivers' volumes and downstream conveyance of sediment loads.

# SOILS (includes a finding on Standard 1)

Affected Environment: The soil information is from the NRCS's Eagle County Soil Survey. Although the survey is not designed for site specific use, it can give a general indication of the expected soils within the SRP and their limitations. The entire SRP and surrounding area is mapped as Tridell-Brownsto stony sandy loams, 12-50% slopes. Tridell soils are considered pinon-juniper range sites, and Brownsto soils are stony foothill range sites. Due to the soils, slopes, and southern exposure, ground cover is sparse, consisting mostly of grasses and scattered rocks. Approximately half of the SRP area is on slopes that are greater than 40 percent, which leaves roughly six acres for camping and parking. The soils are considered to have moderate water erosion hazards, primarily due to slope. The soils have fairly coarse textures, resulting in moderate to rapid permeability, low k factors (indicative of soil particle erodiblity), and low plant available moisture. Slopes and stoniness are the limiting factors for land use. The soils have "moderate" ratings for erosion hazards for off-road, off-trail recreational use, and are considered "very limited" for camping areas, due to the stoniness and slopes.

Environmental Consequences, Proposed Action: Repeated or concentrated recreational use in the SRP area has removed vegetative cover, creating areas of bare compacted soils. This is most noticeable in the user created road and parking area within the proposed SRP area. Due to the coarse soil textures, heavy soil compaction is not a wide-spread problem in the area. These soil textures, however, also limit the revegetation of disturbed areas, especially on the steeper slopes, due to low soil moisture. Areas of roads, trails, or compacted camp sites on a slope can result in more concentrated runoff pathways, leading to rills and eventually gullies. Within the proposed SRP area, there are only a limited number of campsites that are not located on sloping ground.

Under the Proposed Action, impacts will primarily be confined to the proposed SRP area. Due to the limited number of sites, use will be confined to and repeated in the same sites. Depending on the site's location, accelerated erosion from increasing exposed soil (due to loss of vegetative cover) and runoff concentration may become a problem. As sites lose soil, the ability to support vegetation is decreased. Concentrated runoff is more erosive, creating rills and gullies that not only make continued use difficult, but can transport large sediment loads off the site. Offsite impacts would also be likely, as the expected attendance at events greatly exceeds the number of permitted sites. Offsite impacts would be reduced by the number of permitted sites. The applicant is responsible, under terms of the permit, for the permitted site. At this time, the BLM has not closed the surrounding areas to camping during the planned events, so offsite impacts would occur.

Environmental Consequences, No Action Alternative: Under the No Action Alternative, State Bridge event-related use would continue to occur within the proposed SRP area, and would overflow onto the BLM's Piney and Windy Point areas. These nearby sites could experience

increased removal of riparian vegetation, leaving either exposed streambanks or vegetation that lacks a soil stabilizing root structure. This can increase streambank erosion, as upland runoff, channel ice, and stream velocities can erode the more vunerable banks. All the sites (the SRP area and nearby BLM lands) could have compacted bare soils, with reduced infiltration and nutrient cycling and increased soil erosion. The BLM would not have conditions controlling this use, and if unacceptable impacts occurred, would be responsible for corrective actions.

# Mitigation Measures: None

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for upland soils: The Proposed Action affects a small amount of acreage and would not affect land health on a landscape scale. The permitted area's soils, however, are impacted by repeated, concentrated recreational use. The continued issuance of the permit will increase the size and number of unvegetated areas where soil compaction and/or accelerated erosion could occur. The No Action Alternative would result in the greatest number of impacted areas. These areas would not be significant on a landscape scale, but could cause site specific soil erosion problems, depending on the site's slope and soils.

# VEGETATION (includes a finding on Standard 3)

Affected Environment: The project area is located within a pinyon-juniper vegetation community. The overstory is dominated mostly by Rocky Mountain juniper (*Juniperus scopulorum*) with only scattered pinyon pine (*Pinus edulis*). The understory has been disturbed by sporadic camping associated mostly with Colorado River recreation and hunting. Few native understory species remain and those are generally found in the protected areas. The open areas consist mostly of non-native grasses and forbs.

Native vegetation, such as needleandthread (*Hesperostipa comata*) and Indian ricegrass (*Achnatherum hymenoides*) is only found in protected areas. The unprotected areas have mostly been converted to crested wheatgrass (*Agropyron cristatum*), cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*), bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*), yellow sweet clover (*Melilotis officinalis*) and rabbitbrush (*Chrysothamnus* spp).

Environmental Consequences, Proposed Action: The Proposed Action would increase the number of people and vehicles in the area. The vegetation would continue to suffer from the increased recreational use and using the BLM lands as a parking lot during events. There would be very little or no chance for the vegetation to recover which could increase erosion. Soil is expected to become compacted due to the parking activities. Compaction decreases vegetation productivity by decreasing infiltration of run-off, and decreasing the ability of plant roots to penetrate the soil profile, which could result in an overall decrease in viable vegetation in the proposed SRP area.

Environmental Consequences, No Action Alternative: The No Action Alternative would result in the continuation of unregulated camping and travel on BLM-administered lands adjoining the State Bridge private property in association with events promoted by the State Bridge property owner. This would likely lead to increased vegetation disturbance due to unregulated vehicle

traffic and undesignated camping areas. Design features to help mitigate vegetation disturbance would not be implemented.

Mitigation Measures: None

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for plant and animal communities (partial, see also Wildlife, Aquatic and Wildlife, Terrestrial): The project area is part of the Yarmony Common Allotment that was assessed for compliance with the Standards on June 18, 1999. The allotment was determined to be in compliance with all of the Standards. However, the project area was not specifically assessed because it is a small area and separate from the areas grazed by livestock.

#### WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS

Affected Environment: As part of the Kremmling Resource Management Plan Revision, the Kremmling Field Office and the adjacent Colorado River Valley Field Office completed a Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Report. The Colorado River adjacent to the BLM-administered lands proposed for use in the Special Recreation Permit were identified as eligible for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System. The outstandingly remarkable values (ORVs) for the segment include recreational floatboating, recreational fishing, wildlife, historic, and recreational scenic driving. The tentative classification for the segment is recreational.

Environmental Consequences, Proposed Action: Since the BLM does not have control over what happens on the State Bridge private lands, under all alternatives there would be impacts to the ORV of recreational scenic driving as a result of the anticipated large crowds associated with the music events. The scenic driving ORV is associated with the Colorado River Headwaters National Scenic and Historic Byway which begins at State Bridge and goes up the Trough Road to Hwy 9 near Kremmling, then continues east to Grand Lake on Hwy 40 and Hwy 34. Visitors driving the scenic byway would encounter increased traffic in the area around State Bridge as a result of the events. The pastoral/natural setting would be interrupted by a setting with cars parked and people walking up and down the road. The intensity of the impact would be high when visitors encountered the event but the duration of the impact would be short since the vehicles and people associated with the event would be concentrated in the area directly adjacent to the private property.

The proposed action would result in fewer impacts than the no action alternative. Under the Proposed Action, there would be cars parked in the designated parking areas which are adjacent to the scenic byway. The controls over traffic and parking would ensure that traffic would continue to move, so the impacts would be short in duration.

Environmental Consequences, No Action Alternative: The impacts to scenic driving would be similar to the Proposed Action. Under this alternative, no closures would be in place and no permit would be authorized.

Mitigation Measures: None

#### RECREATION

Affected Environment: The proposed action is within the Upper Colorado Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA). The SRMA is managed to provide and maintain floatboating opportunities and associated activities in a roaded-natural setting. Within the SRMA, an estimated 60,000 visitors participate in river-related activities annually. Recreation visitors from Eagle and Routt Counties use the Trough Road as a primary access to the SRMA. Recreation use within the SRMA peaks from mid-July through Labor Day. The area proposed for the SRP is used for dispersed camping by boaters and anglers during the summer months and by big game hunters in the fall. There are roads close to the private land where the music events would take place that provide public access to BLM-administered lands. South of the river, one access road goes up the Piney River (road #1 on attached map) and one access road goes down stream to the BLM-administered Windy Point campground (road #2 on attached map). Both of these access roads are on steep slopes and only allow one-way traffic. The third access road (road #3 on attached map) is west of State Bridge on Hwy 131 and provides access to BLM-administered lands adjacent to the private property where the music events would take place. Approximately .3 miles of primitive road (road #4 on attached map) providing access to BLM administered lands is within the proposed SRP boundary.

As part of the in-progress Kremmling RMP revision, Arizona State University conducted a visitor preference survey within the SRMA. Respondents to the survey indicated their most satisfying activities as rafting, kayaking, and fishing. Natural places and participating in activities were the most important factors in visitor satisfaction. Overall, visitors had a very high level of satisfaction, 4.3 on a scale of 1-5, with 5 being extremely satisfied.

The BLM also updated the recreation setting inventory as part of the RMP revision. The area's remoteness is classified as rural due to the proximity of the Trough Road, Hwy 131 and the railroad. The area's social setting is classified as front country (30 or more encounters and 15 – 25 people per group) due to the proximity of the river to the Trough Road. (The river is adjacent to the road along this section, so the groups on the river are easily visible. Typical weekend use on the adjacent river segment includes large commercial trips, numerous private trips, and several tubing trips). Traffic on the Trough Road and the visibility of the State Bridge Landing adds additional evidence of people. The Trough Road is a well-maintained gravel road that accommodates ordinary auto and truck traffic.

# Environmental Consequences, Proposed Action:

Under the proposed action and no action alternative visitors not attending the music events would not be restricted from use of the primitive roads and access to public lands. There would likely be impacts on the use of the primitive roads and access from potential crowding and other traffic from visitors attending the event. This is due to the difficulty in identifying exactly who is attending the music events and who is not along with enforcement of the restriction. The proposed action would alleviate some of the impacts by having visitors attending the music event park in designated areas. The proposed action would have the least impact to public use of the existing transportation system and access to public lands. The proposed action would mitigate for

use of the areas by visitors attending the music events while still allowing for visitors to utilize the primitive roads and access the BLM-administered lands.

Under both alternatives, the music events would result in direct and indirect impacts to recreation. The proposed action would have the least impacts to recreation. Under the proposed action, issuing the SRP, as described in the proposed action, would provide the BLM controls to reduce the potential user conflicts and public safety issues associated with the music events.

Environmental Consequences, No Action Alternative: Under the no-action alternative, there would be impacts to other recreation users on all adjacent BLM-administered lands because the lack of stipulations on where event participants can and cannot camp and park. Under the no-action alternative, there would be no controls on event activities that would spill off of the private land onto BLM-administered lands, resulting in an increased level of use and user conflicts.

Mitigation Measures: None

#### SOCIO ECONOMICS

Affected Environment: Currently the new owner has remodeled the cabins and is creating an amphitheatre where the lodge was located. If the events are a success, he plans to add a small convenience store. Therefore, the owner has expended some funds in anticipation of a successful summer season.

Environmental Consequence, Proposed Action: If chosen, the proposed action would probably bring more people to the events. With orderly parking and camping, the area would accommodate many people and therefore there would be some excellent revenue from the events. Without some of the safety design features the county and the BLM have requested for their permits, (traffic control, use of dumpsters and toilets) the owner would possibly have to deal with some chaos before and after the events. There is an economic benefit to the BLM to have a reclamation bond available in the event the owner defaults on his responsibilities.

Environmental Consequence, No Action Alternative: The area for camping and parking would be first come first serve and in no orderly fashion which would then not accommodate as many people as the proposed action and revenues would probably be less. Visitors may decide to move on if there is no room. If there was a considerable amount of damage to the public land after one or more events, the BLM could issue a closure notice for the area and the amount of funds expended for property improvements may be larger than the revenue gained from smaller events as they could not offer offsite camping and parking.

# **CUMULATIVE IMPACTS SUMMARY:**

Geographic Scope of the Cumulative Analysis:

For the purpose of this EA, the general geographic area for cumulative impact analysis is near the intersection of CO Hwy. 134 and Eagle County Road 11 with the Colorado River on the south and steep topography on the north. This land is found in the Upper Colorado River drainage area southwest of Kremmling, Colorado.

The timeframe for the cumulative impact analysis is one year for short-term effects and five years for long-term effects. These timeframes are based on the one year SRP permit that would be issued, the potential for renewal, or if the No Action Alternative is chosen.

Past, Present, and Reasonably Foreseeable Action:

In the past there has been camping and parking use in the proposed area. State Bridge had large music events from the mid 1980s until the State Bridge Lodge burned in 2007. No music events have happened since 2007, but dispersed camping has continued since then. Repeated and/or concentrated recreational use in the area has removed vegetative cover, creating areas of bare, compacted soils.

Direct and indirect impacts resulting from the proposed action may include lose of vegetative cover, soil erosion, susceptibility of invasive and non-native weeds, change in social setting for recreationist, displacement of visitors not attending the music events, and closing BLM roads to event participants.

Development for this area in the future is expected to increase. This is a one year permit but has the possibility of being renewed for additional years depending on the resource impacts. With the increase in recreationists it is assumed that the area would have natural resource damage that will have to be mitigated by the permittee.

The cumulative effects from the No Action Alternative could degrade wildlife habitat, produce greater impacts to water quality, soil erosion, loss of vegetation, user conflict, and human health and safety issues (vehicles parked in unorganized fashion, people walking on main roads, one-way roads staying open, etc.) due to increased non-monitored use of the area during the concerts. These impacts would continue until there were no more concerts and reclamation occurred.

PERSONS / AGENCIES CONSULTED: State Bridge Lodge is represented by Doog Properties SB, LLC. Concerns about traffic and mass gatherings were brought up by the BLM during the application process. Doog Properties SB, LLC contacted Eagle County about these concerns. The applicant conducted a Traffic Impact Study as well as applied for a Special Use Permit in Eagle County. The recommendations from the Traffic Impact Study have been included in this document as stipulations for this Special Recreation Permit. The Special Use Permit was approved by Eagle County with stipulations.

See Appendix 2 for Tribal List.

**INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW**: See IDT-RRC in Appendix 1.

# APPENDICES:

Appendix 1 – Interdisciplinary Team Analysis Review Record and Checklist Appendix 2 – Native American Tribal List

<u>ATTACHMENTS:</u> Stipulations for Permit

# Finding of No Significant Impact and Decision Record Bureau of Land Management Kremmling Field Office

Environmental Assessment DOI-BLM-LLCON02000-2010-0045-EA

Case File No.

Proposed Action Title/Type: Special Recreation Permit

**Applicant/Proponent:** Douglas Moog

**Location of Proposed Action**: T. 2 S., R. 83 W., Sections 24 & 25, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M.

# **Conformance with Applicable Land Use Plan:**

These plans have been reviewed to determine if the proposed action conforms to the land use plan terms and conditions as required by 43 CFR 1610.5. This proposed action is in conformance with the following land use plans:

Name of Kremmling Resource Management Plan Date 1999
Plan: Approved:

# **BACKGROUND**

The BLM, Kremmling Field Office issued an SRP in 2003, for camping and temporary yurts for the 2003 season. The 2003 SRP was analyzed in an environmental assessment (EA), CO-KRFO-03-15 EA. The EA found no significant impacts associated with issuing the SRP. The SRP was renewed in 2004, 2005, and 2006. In the spring of 2007, the historic lodge on the property burned down. No music events were held on the property in 2007, 2008 or 2009.

In the spring of 2010, under new ownership, the owners of the State Bridge property proposed continuation of music events on the property. Douglas Moog has also applied for a Special Use Permit with Eagle County. The Special Use Permit that was approved has a maximum of 500 attendees per event day. Events over 500 attendees require an application for a Mass Gathering Permit from Eagle County. Events with over 250 attendees are limited to 15 events per year. Other stipulations with the Eagle County Special Use Permit are outlined in this document as well as the Eagle County Special Use Permit.

New information has become available to the BLM since the 2003 EA was completed. Since 2003, BLM has conducted a Wild & Scenic River Eligibility Report for the Resource Management Plan Revision; an updated cultural survey of the BLM-administered lands adjacent to the private property has been completed; and, the proponent has commissioned a traffic impact study for the county's mass gathering permit. This new information was not fully analyzed in the 2003 EA.

# **Finding of No Significant Impact**

The Kremmling Field Office interdisciplinary review and analysis determined that the proposed action would not trigger significant impacts on the environment based on criteria established by regulations, policy and analysis.

I have reviewed the above mentioned NEPA compliance document (EA). I have determined that the proposed action and the alternatives are in conformance with the Kremmling Resource Management Plan, 1999.

I have determined, based on the analysis in DOI-BLM-LLCON02000-2010-45-EA, this is not an action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment and, therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement is not required. This determination is based on the rationale that the significance criteria, as defined by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) (40 CFR 1508.27) have not been met.

The following rationale was used to determine that significant impacts were not present for each criteria mentioned in Title 40 CFR 1508.27:

1. Beneficial and adverse impacts.

The proposed action has beneficial impacts which will protect cultural resources, provide monitoring and treatment for non-native plant species, require remediation for negative impacts on water quality and accelerated runoff. The proposed action would designate parking and camping which would reduce impacts of traffic movement on the Trough Road and Highway 131 and would reduce health and safety issues by restricting event participant use on the one-way primitive roads.

2. The degree to which the proposed action affects public health or safety.

The proposed action has stipulations that protect public health and safety on public lands.

3. Unique characteristics of the geographic area.

The Upper Colorado River Special Recreation Management Area has a Wild and Scenic Eligibility Report completed in 2008. The stretch of river located to the south of the proposed SRP area was found eligible as a recreational Wild and Scenic River section.

4. The degree to which the effects on the quality of the human environment are likely to be highly controversial.

The effects of the proposed action on the quality of the human environment are not considered highly controversial.

5. The degree to which the possible effects on the human environment are highly uncertain or involve unique of unknown risks.

Camping and parking have taken place in the proposed SRP area during music event in the past. The effects on the human environment from the proposed action are known and do not involve unique or unknown risks.

6. The degree to which the action may establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represents a decision in principle about a future consideration.

The proposed action will not establish a precedent for the future nor does it represent a decision in principle about a future consideration. This EA includes stipulations which allow for the BLM to cancel the Special Recreation Permit if they are not being met.

7. Whether the action is related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts.

The proposed action is related to the Eagle County Special Use Permit that was approved for the applicant. Stipulations for this plan have been included in the proposed SRP.

8. The degree to which the action may adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or objects listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or may cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources.

Five prehistoric sites 5GA833, 5GA1565, 5GA2139, 5GA2140, and 5GA2144 are adjacent to or inside the area of the proposed action and are considered to be not eligible to the National Register of Historic Places. Three prehistoric lithic scatters, sites 5GA2141, 5GA2142, and 5GA2143, are determined to be eligible to the National Register. If the proposed action is selected, the sites would be avoided by the construction of a structural barrier such as a buck and pole fence and signs that would identify the area as closed. Monitoring conducted by State Bridge employees to insure avoidance of the three eligible sites would be during all recreational activities, and periodic site monitoring by the Field Office Archaeologist of the eligible sites. Site protection and monitoring could be established in the future by the creation of a site stewardship partnership with State Bridge to ensure that no adverse effects would take place. The program would also be used to educate State Bridge personnel of the proper site etiquette and protection needs for the eligible sites.

9. The degree to which the action may adversely affect an endangered or threatened species or its habitat that has been determined to be critical under the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

The project will not adversely affect any sensitive, threatened, endangered or proposed for listing species.

10. Whether the action threatens a violation of Federal, State, or local law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment.

The proposed action does not violate Federal, State, and local laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.

**Decision:** It is my decision to authorize the Proposed Action as described in the attached EA.

**Mitigation Measures:** In the area of cultural sites 5GA2141, 5GA2142, and 5GA2143, a structural barrier such as a buck and pole fence would be constructed and area closed signs would be posted. The Kremmling Archaeologist and Recreation staff would perform the mitigation prior to events.

# **Compliance/Monitoring:**

- 1. The BLM would monitor the project area for establishment of invasive, non-native species. BLM would be responsible for the treatment of invasive and non-native species.
- 2. The BLM would conduct an inter-disciplinary assessment of the area prior to renewing the SRP. Preventive or remedial modifications would be added to the permit to ensure no accelerated runoff was leaving the SRP site and impacting water quality by requiring erosion control work or drainage improvements on trails and camping sites.
- 3. Monitoring conducted by State Bridge employees to ensure avoidance of the three eligible sites would be during all recreational activities, and periodic site monitoring by the Field Office Archaeologist of the eligible sites. Site protection and monitoring could be established in the future by the creation of a site stewardship partnership with State Bridge to ensure that no adverse effects would take place.

		nn Cassel nmental Coordinator	te5/4/1	1	
Authorized Off	icer:	Susan Cassel		Date: 5/4	/11



# **United States Department of the Interior**

#### **BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

Kremmling Field Office 2103 E. Park Avenue Kremmling, CO 80459 www.blm.gov/co/kremmling



State Bridge Special Recreation Permit Decision Record May 23, 2011

# 1.0 Introduction and Background

The BLM, Kremmling Field Office issued an SRP in 2003, for camping and temporary yurts for the 2003 season. The 2003 SRP was analyzed in an environmental assessment (EA), CO-KRFO-03-15 EA. The EA found no significant impacts associated with issuing the SRP. The SRP was renewed in 2004, 2005, and 2006. In the spring of 2007, the historic lodge on the property burned down. No music events were held on the property in 2007, 2008 or 2009.

In the spring of 2010, under new ownership, the owners of the State Bridge property proposed continuation of music events on the property. Douglas Moog has also applied for a Special Use Permit with Eagle County. The Special Use Permit that was approved has a maximum of 500 attendees per event day. Events over 500 attendees require an application for a Mass Gathering Permit from Eagle County. Events with over 250 attendees are limited to 15 events per year. Other stipulations with the Eagle County Special Use Permit are outlined in this document as well as the Eagle County Special Use Permit.

New information has become available to the BLM since the 2003 EA was completed. Since 2003, BLM has conducted a Wild & Scenic River Eligibility Report for the Resource Management Plan Revision; an updated cultural survey of the BLM-administered lands adjacent to the private property has been completed; and, the proponent has commissioned a traffic impact study for the county's mass gathering permit. This new information was not fully analyzed in the 2003 EA.

# 2.0 Decision and Rationale

### 2.1 Alternatives Considered but not Selected

Under the No Action alternative, the BLM would not issue a Special Recreation Permit.

Alternative #1 would be to not issue a Special Recreation Permit and to implement a temporary road and area closure on BLM-administered lands adjacent to the State Bridge private property. The temporary closures would be in effect from noon on Fridays through Monday mornings

during the event weekends and would close the BLM-administered lands to all public use (e.g. parking, camping, hiking, etc.). This action was considered but not further analyzed due to lack of budget to provide adequate staff to close this area and the roads.

# 2.2 Decision and Rationale

Based on information in the EA, the project record, and consultation with my staff, I have decided to issue the Special Recreation Permit to Doog Properties SB LLC as described in the EA. The project is not expected to adversely impact any resources with the stipulations and monitoring measures required by the Special Recreation Permit.

# 3.0 Consultation and Coordination

No special status animal or plant species (or their habitats) were found; therefore, consultation with USFWS is not necessary. State Bridge Lodge is represented by Doog Properties SB, LLC. Concerns about traffic and mass gatherings were brought up by the BLM during the application process. Doog Properties SB, LLC contacted Eagle County about these concerns. The applicant conducted a Traffic Impact Study as well as applied for a Special Use Permit in Eagle County. The recommendations from the Traffic Impact Study have been included in this document as stipulations for this Special Recreation Permit. The Special Use Permit was approved by Eagle County with stipulations.

# 4.0 Public Involvement

Scoping was announced for the project on May 4, 2011 via BLM's internet site. The EA was available for a formal 30-day public comment period in May as posted on the Kremmling Field Office's internet website.

# **5.0 Plan Consistency**

Based on information in the EA, the project record, and recommendations from BLM specialists, I conclude that this decision is consistent with the 1999 Kremmling RMP, the Federal Land Policy Management Act (FLPMA).

# **6.0 Administrative Remedies**

Administrative remedies may be available to those who believe they will be adversely affected by this decision. Appeals may be made to the Office of Hearings and Appeals, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Interior, Board of Land Appeals (Board) in strict compliance with the regulations in 43 CFR Part 4. Notices of appeal must be filed in this office within 30 days after publication of this decision. If a notice of appeal does not include a statement of reasons, such statement must be filed with this office and the Board within 30 days after the notice of appeal is filed. The notice of appeal and any statement of reasons, written arguments, or briefs

must also be served upon the Regional Solid Interior, 755 Parfet Street, Suite 151, Lakev	citor, Rocky Mountain Region, U.S. Department of wood, CO 80215.
The effective date of this decision (and the notice of decision is posted on BLM's (Kre	date initiating the appeal period) will be the date this mmling Field Office) internet website.
/s/ Susan Cassel For David Stout Field Manager, Kremmling Field Office	5/24/11 Date

# State Bridge Special Recreation Permit Stipulations

# **BLM Stipulations**

- 1. Applicant shall ensure traffic/parking attendants shall be on duty directing traffic at the locations identified on the attached map three hours before the music begins and three hours after the music ends each event day.
- 2. Applicant shall place five portable toilets within the proposed SRP area. Portable toilets shall be on site, ready for use by noon on Friday and remain on site through Sunday night (on holiday weekends, through Monday night). If there is any type of spill/leak from the portable toilets, the applicant will be fully responsible for cleaning up the spill/leak and restoring the land to state hazardous waste requirement and BLM requirements as determined by the authorized officer or his representative.
- 3. Applicant shall place one five yard dumpster or five one yard dumpsters within the proposed SRP area The dumpster shall be on site, ready for use by noon on Friday and remain on site through Sunday night (on holiday weekends, through Monday night). Dumpsters must be removed between events. If there is a spill or trash is spread due to humans or animals, the applicant is responsible for cleaning up to state hazardous waste requirements or BLM requirements as determined by the authorized office or his representative.
- 4. Applicant is responsible for installing "Event in Progress" signs on both approaches to Trough Road on Hwy 131, approximately 1 mile from intersection.
- 5. Applicant is responsible for ensuring all event traffic parks and camps on either private property or within the proposed SRP area. Event parking and camping are not allowed on BLM-administered lands outside the proposed SRP area (see attached map).
- 6. Applicant is responsible for ensuring no camping occurs within the designated parking areas (see attached map).
- 7. Applicant is responsible for ensuring all campfires are in the proposed SRP area and outside the designated parking areas. The permittee is responsible for cleaning and maintenance of firerings n the SRP area after each event.
- 8. Parking areas would be fenced off with temporary fencing to prevent vehicle traffic outside the designated parking areas. Area C- Camping/Primitive Parking would allow for around 70 vehicles and Area C- Event Parking would allow for around 100 vehicles.
- 9. The permittee would post a cash or surety bond in the amount of \$10,000 to cover any reclamation/restoration costs that result from the events.
- 10. Fees for the permit would be \$200 for the assigned site fee and 3% of gross receipts or \$5.00 per vehicle per day (whether camping or parking) whichever is greater.
- 11. The permittee would provide the BLM Kremmling Field Office proof of liability insurance covering all participants for the following minimum amounts:

Property damage - \$30,000 Damage per occurrence (persons, bodily injury, death) - \$300,000 Annual aggregate - \$600,000

12. The holder shall immediately bring to the attention of the Authorized Officer any and all antiquities, or other objects of historic, paleontological, or scientific interest including but

not limited to, historic or prehistoric ruins or artifacts <u>DISCOVERED</u> as a result of operations under this authorization (16 U.S.C. 470.-3, 36 CFR 800.112). The holder shall immediately suspend all activities in the area of the object and shall leave such discoveries intact until written approval to proceed is obtained from the Authorized Officer. Approval to proceed will be based upon evaluation of the object(s). Evaluation shall be by a qualified professional selected by the Authorized Officer from a Federal agency insofar as practicable (BLM Manual 8142.06E). When not practicable, the holder shall bear the cost of the services of a non-Federal professional.

Within five working days the Authorized Officer will inform the holder as to:

- Whether the materials appear eligible for the National Register of Historic Places:
- The mitigation measures the holder will likely have to undertake before the site can be used (assuming in situ preservation is not necessary); and,
- A timeframe for the Authorized Officer to complete an expedited review under 36 CFR 800.11 to confirm, through the State Historic Preservation Officer, that the findings of the Authorized Officer are correct and that mitigation is appropriate.

If the holder wishes, at any time, to relocate activities to avoid the expense of mitigation and/or the delays associated with this process, the Authorized Officer will assume responsibility for whatever recordation and stabilization of the exposed materials may be required. Otherwise, the holder will be responsible for mitigation costs. The Authorized Officer will provide technical and procedural guidelines for the conduct of mitigation. Upon verification from the Authorized Officer that the required mitigation has been completed, the holder will then be allowed to resume construction.

Antiquities, historic, prehistoric ruins, paleontological or objects of scientific interest that are outside of the authorization boundaries but <u>directly associated</u> with the impacted resource will also be included in this evaluation and/or mitigation.

Antiquities, historic, prehistoric ruins, paleontological or objects of scientific interest, identified or unidentified, that are outside of the authorization and not associated with the resource within the authorization will also be protected. Impacts that occur to such resources, which are related to the authorizations activities, will be mitigated at the holder's cost.

Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g), the holder of this authorization must notify the Authorized Officer, by telephone, with written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4 (c) and (d), you must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the Authorized Officer.

# **Eagle County Stipulations**

- 13. Applicant would be responsible for ensuring no event traffic parks on or along either the Trough Road or Colorado Hwy 131. Along both side of SH-131 and Trough Road in vicinity of the intersection and adjacent to State Bridge, 'No Parking' signs would be installed as requested by CDOT and Eagle County.
- 14. Applicant would be responsible to ensure for any event where more than 250 event tickets have been issued, a commissioned law enforcement officer would direct traffic at the intersection between the Trough Road and Colorado Hwy 131 for the duration of an event as defined by Colorado State Patrol and/or Eagle County Sheriff's Department. Colorado State Patrol and the Eagle County Sheriff's Department may determine that Uniformed Traffic Control is not necessary and documented in writing.

# Appendix 1

# **INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM ANALYSIS REVIEW RECORD AND CHECKLIST:**

**Project Title: State Bridge Special Recreation Permit** 

Project Leader: Hannah Schechter

**Date Proposal Received: (Only for external proposals)** 

Date Submitted for Comment: Due Date for Comments:

Need for a field Exam: (If so, schedule a date/time)

**Scoping Needs/Interested or Affected Publics: (Identify public scoping needs)** 

# **Consultation/Permit Requirements:**

Consultation	Date Initiated	Date Completed	Responsible Specialist/ Contractor	Comments
Cultural/Archeological Clearance/SHPO	NA	1/31/2011	BBW	Consultation on inventory results and determination of eligibility have been conducted with the State Historic Preservation Officer for those sites that have been recorded within the project area and adjacent. It has been determined that as long as all eligible sites are avoided the proposed action would be a no effect, there are no historic properties that would be affected.
Native American	3/26/2010	1/31/2011	BBW	Because this action is an undertaking under Section 106 of the NHPA and has the potential to affect traditional cultural properties consultation was initiated with the five affiliated tribes that include the Ute Mountain Ute, Southern Ute, Northern Ute, Eastern Shoshone, and Northern Arapaho.
T&E Species/FWS	N/A	N/A	MM	•
Permits Needed (i.e. Air or Water)	N/A	N/A	PB	

(NP) = Not Present

(NI) = Resource/Use Present but Not Impacted

(PI) = Potentially Impacted and Brought Forward for Analysis.

NP NI PI	Discipline/Name	Date Review Comp.	Initials	Review Comments (required for Critical Element NIs, and for elements that require a finding but are not carried forward for analysis.)
NI	Air Quality Belch	her 1/25/11	PB	Air quality in the area is considered to be meeting the National Ambient Air Quality Standards. The Proposed Action and the No
NP	Areas of Critical Environmental	1/26/11	MM	Action Alternative would not affect air quality.  There are no Areas of Critical Environmental

	Concern McGuire			Concern in the proximity of the proposed
				project area.
PI	Cultural Resources Wyatt	1/31/11	BBW	See analysis.
NP	Environmental Justice Cassel			According to the most recent Census Bureau statistics (2000), there are no minority or low
				income communities within the Kremmling Planning Area.
NP	Farmlands,	1/25/11	PB	There are no farmlands, prime or unique, in the
	Prime and Unique <b>Belcher</b>			proximity of the proposed project area.
NI	Floodplains Belcher	1/25/11	PB	The SRP would be located up out of the floodplain. The Proposed Action does not directly affect the functionality of the floodplain, nor does it increase the flood hazard. See Water Quality Section for additional discussion.
ΡI	Invasive,	1/13/11	ZH	See analysis
	Non-native Species	1, 10, 11		
	Hughes			
PI	Migratory Birds McGuire	1/26/11	MM	See analysis.
NI	Native American Wyatt	1/31/11	BBW	To date no American Indian tribe has identified
	Religious Concerns			any area of traditional or spiritual concern.
NP	T/E, and Sensitive Species	1/26/11	MM	No lynx have been documented traveling
	(Finding on Standard 4) McGuire			through the linkage area and no lynx are
				currently documented inhabiting the LAUs
				connected by the State Bridge Linkage area.
				Selection of any alternative would result in a
				No Affect determination for impacts to Canada lynx and the State Bridge Linkage Area.
NP	Wastes, Hazardous Elliott	1/31/11	KE	There are no quantities of wastes, hazardous or
111	and Solid	1/31/11	I KL	solid, located on BLM-administered lands in
				the proposed project area, and there would be
				no wastes generated as a result of the Proposed
				Action, Alternative #1 or No Action alternative.
PI	Water Quality, Surface and Ground	1/28/11	PB	See analysis
	(Finding on Standard 5) <b>Belcher</b>			
NI	Wetlands & Riparian Zones	1/28/11	PB	There are no direct impacts to wetlands or
	(Finding on Standard 2) <b>Belcher</b>			riparian zones. The No Action Alternative,
				however, could have an indirect impact to the riparian zones along the Colorado and Piney
				Rivers. See Water Quality Section in this E.A.
PI	Wild and Scenic Rivers Windsor		AW	See analysis
	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	7/7/10	11,,	
NP	Wilderness Windsor			There is no designated Wilderness or
		7/20/10	AW	Wilderness Study Areas in the proximity of the
				proposed project area.
PΙ	Soils (Finding on Standard 1) <b>Belcher</b>		PB	See analysis
		1/28/11		
PI	Vegetation Johnson	10/4/10	RJ	See analysis in this EA.
VII	(Finding on Standard 3) Torma	10/4/10	MM	There would be no nermanent immediate
NI	Wildlife, Aquatic (Finding on Standard 3) McGuire	1/26/11	MM	There would be no permanent impacts to aquatic wildlife from either alternative.
NI	Wildlife, Terrestrial	1/26/11	MM	As the events would occur during the summer
111	(Finding on Standard 3) McGuire	1,20,11	1,11,1	months, big game should not be impacted by
				either alternative.
	Access/Transportation Monkouski		1	See Analysis in Recreation Section.

		12/7/10	JJM	
NI	Forest Management K. Belcher	12/2/10	KB	Implementation of the Proposed Action and the
1,1	1 01 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	12/2/10		No Action alternatives would result in negative
				impacts to a limited number of woodland acres
				and the vegetation contained thereon (mostly as
				a direct result of physical damage and as an
				indirect result of soil compaction). Since
				Alternative #1 would implement temporary
				closures on public lands during events, there
				would be no impact to woodland vegetation.
				The Proposed Action, Alternative #1, and No
				Action would have little effect on forest and
				woodland vegetation as a whole and would not
				affect Forest Management.
NI	Geology and Minerals Elliott	1/31/11	KE	There would be no impacts to geologic or
				mineral resources from implementation of the
				Proposed Action, Alternative #1 or the No
				Action Alternative.
ΡI	Fire Wyatt	1/31/11	BBW	The potential for wildfire is present from
	•			unattended campfires, discarded cigarettes, and
				vehicles left idling parked over vegetation with
				all alternatives.
NI	Hydrology/Water Rights Belcher	1/28/11	PB	There would be no impact to water rights from
				the Proposed Action. Hydrologic concerns are
				in the Water Quality Section of this E.A.
NI	Paleontology Rupp		FGR	Surface geologic formations sensitive for
		9/9/10		discovery of fossils include Jurassic Curtis and
				Entrada formations are present, but no fossils
				were discovered. Standard BLM discovery
				stipulation attached to the SRP.
NI	Noise <b>Monkouski</b>			Under all alternatives there would be music
		12/7/10	JJM	events held by the proposed permittee unless
				their permit for a mass gathering is denied by
				Eagle County. Visitors in the area would still
				be impacted by the music event and associated
				use of public lands whether there are
NTT	Danas Manas and Til		DI	restrictions on transportation and access or not.
NI	Range Management Johnson	10/4/10	RJ	The project area falls within Allotment 07537
	Torma	10/4/10		(Yarmony Common). However, it is separated
				from the main livestock grazing area by steep
NI	Lands/ Daulty Authorizations		AS	slopes and is not grazed by livestock.
111	Lands/ Realty Authorizations Sperandio	12/3/10	AS	There are no ROWs within the proposed area.
	Recreation Monkouski	12/3/10		See Analysis
	Windsor	7/20/10	AW	See Alialysis
PI	Socio-Economics Cassel	4/18/11	SC	See Analysis
11	Visual Resources Windsor	7/10/11	50	See Analysis See Analysis
	v isuai resources vv musui	7/20/10	AW	Sec 1 mary 515
	Cumulative Impact Summary	5-3-11	HS	See Analysis
	Camulative impact Summary	J-J-11	115	Sec 1 mary 515
	P&E Coordinator Cassel			
	1000 Coolemanor Cubbel	ı		

# Appendix 2

# **Native American Tribes Contacted:**

Ivan Posey, Chairman Shoshone Business Council Shoshone Tribe PO BOX 538 Ft. Washakie, WY 82514

Ernest House, Sr. Chairman Ute Mountain Ute Tribe PO BOX JJ Towoac, CO 81334

Ernest House, Jr., Executive Secretary Colorado Commissioner of Indian Affairs 130 State Capitol Denver, CO 80203

Mathew Box, Chairman Southern Ute Indian Tribe PO BOX 737 Ignacio, CO 81137

Curtis Cesspooch, Chairman Uintah & Ouray Tribal Business Committee PO BOX 190 Ft. Duchesne, UT 84026

Betsy Chapoose, Director Cultural Rights & Protection Specialist Uintah & Ouray Tribe PO BOX 190 Fort Duchesne, UT 84026 Arlen Shoyo, THPO Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Shoshone Tribe, Cultural Center PO BOX 538 Fort Washakie, WY 82514

Mr. Terry Knight, Sr., NAGPRA Representative Ute Mountain Ute Tribe PO BOX 468 Towaoc, CO 81334

Darlene Conrad, THPO Director Northern Arapaho Tribe PO BOX 396 Fort Washakie, WY 82514

Robert Goggles, NAGPRA Representative Northern Arapaho Tribe 328 Seventeen Mile Road Arapaho, WY 82510

Neil Cloud, NAGPRA Representative Southern Ute Tribe Mail Stop #73 Ignacio, CO 81137